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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
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March 12, 2007

The Honorable Robert Mueller
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
J. Edgar Hoover Building
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Director Mueller,

It is with great concern that I write to you today regarding the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Inspector General reports reviewing the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) use of National Security Letters and Section 215 orders for business records. The reports, required by the USA Patriot Act, are a perfect example of the importance of independent oversight of the Administration and its programs. As the Ranking Member of the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives, I believe shining a light on deficiencies is ultimately the most effective way to strengthen a program.

As you know, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee pays particular attention to government management and information technology issues. My staff has regularly scheduled briefings on Sentinel. You and I have met personally to discuss FBI's IT systems and how best to bolster current and future projects. We both know that no system can be successful without proper internal management. While I am encouraged by your public statements of accountability, I remain cautiously optimistic until FBI implements its plans to remedy the process errors and management weaknesses that occurred in utilizing national security letters, as well as Section 215 orders.

I ask that the FBI continue to keep my staff abreast of changes to the system and how corrective protocols are being implemented. I also ask that you make your staff available for a briefing at any future time that is requested.

Sincerely,



Tom Davis
Ranking Republican Member